

Friday Morning, December 22, 1871.

The Present State of the Case in the United States Court.

Messrs. Johnson and Stanbery, having done their work, will leave our city today. On two questions which were raised by Messrs. Johnson and Stanbery, the Judges of the court—Judge Bond and Judge Bryan—stood opposed in opinion. The first and most important one is: Whether the court has jurisdiction under the Act of 1870 to try not only conspiracies against the right of suffrage, and to punish them, according to the provisions of that Act, with fine and imprisonment, provided in case of such conspiracies, but whether, as provided in the Act, they can also try parties accused for any other felony, and punish them for such other felony with the measure of punishment provided for such offences by the laws of South Carolina. In many of the cases, the parties charged with the conspiracy against the suffrage were also charged with other offences, such as burglary and murder, committed at the same time, but independent of and not in furtherance of the conspiracy itself. The question, whether that section of the Act which authorizes such jurisdiction is constitutional, has been certified on a division of opinion to the Supreme Court of the United States for its decision.

The other question, which has likewise been certified to the Supreme Court on a division of opinion, arises upon indictments in which conspiracies are charged against the right to keep and bear arms, and the question there is: Whether jurisdiction to try a conspiracy against the exercise of that right is vested in the courts of the United States.

Of the two questions so certified, the first is, in all respects, the most grave and important. If it had happened that the Judges had been united in the opinion that they had jurisdiction to try the cases of murder, as to which numerous parties stood charged, then nothing would have been left to those parties but to submit to the consequences of such a verdict as might have been rendered against them.

There are yet one or two questions, raised by Messrs. Johnson and Stanbery, on which the opinion of the Court has not yet been delivered. One relates to the right of peremptory challenge, and the other and the most important of the two is under which section of the Act of 1870 parties convicted of conspiracy against the suffrage are to be punished. Messrs. Johnson and Stanbery claim that the punishment for that offence is fixed by the fourth section of the Act as a misdemeanor, for which the imprisonment cannot exceed one year; whilst, on the part of the Government, it is contended that the punishment is fixed by the sixth section of the Act as a felony, and in which the term of imprisonment may extend to ten years. We shall await anxiously to hear whether, upon those points, the Judges are united or divided in opinion.

It is proper to add, that the only mode in which any question arising in these cases can be taken to the Supreme Court of the United States, is upon a division of opinion between the Judges. That is the rule in all criminal cases, for in such cases no appeal or writ of error can be taken to the Supreme Court of the United States.

We understand that the questions which have been or may be certified to the Supreme Court, will be decided by that tribunal at an early day, of the present term of that court, and that Messrs. Johnson and Stanbery will repair to Washington to argue them before that tribunal. In the meantime, further proceedings in all those cases involving the disputed questions will be suspended until the decision of the Supreme Court is announced.

In announcing the departure of these distinguished lawyers, we can but give expression to the public appreciation of the valuable services they have performed in behalf of our citizens prosecuted under the Enforcement Act of Congress, and in behalf of the principles of civil liberty and common law violated in said Act. Whilst neither they nor we can have any sympathy with outrages, by whomsoever and wherever committed, yet in enforcing the law it is not, we take it, necessary to violate the law and the Constitution. Messrs. Johnson and Stanbery have accomplished practical results, and interposed their legal strength between a fettered people and a giant Government. They have done well here. They go to Washington to renew their fight before the Supreme Court of the country. May Heaven defend the right. We thank Messrs. Johnson and Stanbery for the services they have rendered, in behalf of a people ostracized by the Federal Government; and those thanks we render in behalf of all the people in sympathy with the move that brought these eminent lawyers to our defence.

A VOICE FROM THE COUNTRY.—A correspondent writes us as follows:

"Fire on Scott and the ring from all sides. Give him hot shot, and cold shot, and chain shot, and shot of all sizes and shapes. Pour it on him in the front, and flank, and rear. Give it to him in the regular warfare fashion."

All we have to say is, that we are trying to do our duty in this behalf. By our fruits, judge us. The ringworm must be cauterized and must perish, or the State can prosper.

The Case of the Tax-Payers vs. the City of Columbia.

The counsel for the plaintiffs having met with technical objections on the part of the defence, discontinued the original action, and yesterday brought a new case for adjudication. The action is entitled: "The State ex relatione R. O. Shiver et al., vs. the City of Columbia and Jas. M. Allen, contractor." The application was for a preliminary injunction, and was of course *ex parte*. The principal allegations were those of the first complaint—fraud and breach of trust on the part of the City Council. The present case, however, in addition, charges directly a conspiracy on the part of James M. Allen, W. H. Wigg and J. L. Neagle to defraud the city out of over \$50,000. Upon the showing made, his Honor Judge Melton granted an order requiring the defendants to show cause before him, on the 27th instant, why the injunction and relief prayed for should not be granted; and meanwhile, enjoining the Mayor and Aldermen, their agents and attorneys, from making any further payments upon the contracts for the erection of the City Hall. We congratulate the community upon this ruling—temporary though it be. It shows the innate strength of the case, and, far better, it shows that we have a Judge who will do his duty fearlessly, faithfully and honestly.

These developments are startling. Tomorrow we shall give the affidavits, or the substance thereof, upon which this case, implicating Allen, Neagle and Wigg, is made. It will appear, further, hereafter, and we shall consider how far other members of the City Council are involved, more or less, in this transaction. We will say, however, that the affidavits of Israel Smith and Joseph Taylor, colored members of the City Council and Aldermen, express disapprobation of the proceedings which we have called in question, and they do not hesitate to say that they were surprised to hear of the bid of \$138,000 for the City Hall. The affidavits of Messrs. Waring and Johnson, and the letter of Mr. Perkins, the architect, contain the gravamen of the charges now laid in law at the door of the ring. Messrs. Shiver and Swaffield have given valuable assistance in protecting the interests of the city. This is the way in which the memorial is answered. We commend the answer to the Legislature and the public.

That Memorial Again.

The memorial of the Mayor and Aldermen of the City Council—prepared by the City Attorney—was received with very general amusement, on yesterday. It is commonly thought that it deserves to rank with Scott's scandalous message. The general impression is, that the City Attorney has killed the Council and Mayor about as effectually as Mackey killed Gov. Scott. Both Scott and Alexander might well say, "Save us from our friends." Both write themselves down, and are hoisted by their own petards.

That memorial is a rich document. This is peculiarly rich: "Deprived of power and place, by events guided by Providence, this virulent editor and his condottieri utterly rebel against destiny, and make futile war against its changeless decrees." We would like to know what is here meant by the "changeless decrees" of "destiny," against which we are charged with utterly rebelling. Is it, since we are rebelling against naught else, that public plundering and public swindling are deemed destiny's "changeless decrees"? If so, we do utterly rebel against them, and hope to show that they are not "changeless." The Greeks had an idea, years and years ago, of a "destiny" that was dark and remorseless. Is this the "destiny" that we are invited to accept in the sunlight of this century? Who killed Cock Robin No. 2?

The spirit of reform has entered the Senate of the country. The Democrats and a wing of the Republicans, such as Trumbull, Schurz, Wilson and Tipton, are moving for a thorough inquiry into every branch of the public service. The rottenness of officials in power—that is the evil. Says Carl Schurz: "I want to put the iron to the bottom." So say we. What Schurz wants done at Washington, we want done here. On the question of official corruption, there is no such thing as a "passive policy," nor is there any such thing as "masterly inactivity." Let us move. Action is the word.

THE MEMORIAL AND THE BILL OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF COLUMBIA POSTPONED. Messrs. Edwin J. Scott, R. O. Shiver and W. O. Swaffield appeared before the Committee of Ways and Means of the House, on yesterday, and secured a postponement of the consideration of said memorial and bill. This postponement will probably prove indefinite. Scott, Shiver and Swaffield represented the protest of the tax-payers, who met on Saturday last. The City Council were largely represented, but they could not prevail.

Give us the ear of the Legislature, and we shall expose the Council there as we have exposed them elsewhere. We and our "coadjutors" work to win with the weapons of TRUTH and JUSTICE.

We have received from our respected and esteemed friend, Mr. Wm. M. Lawton, of Charleston, an essay, by himself, on "Rice and its Culture," read before the Agricultural Congress, convened at Selma, Ala., December 5, 1871. Mr. Lawton is an intelligent and acute observer, and withal one of the truest and most devoted of the citizens of the State. He has treated his subject intelligently.

The Hon. Henry Stanbery.

It has been said that it is a very bad thing to win fame and then have one's name mis-spell in the gazettes. Whilst we know that this is a small matter with the honorable gentleman from Ohio, now sojourning in our midst, yet we think it time for the papers to write Mr. Stanbery's name just as it is—not *Stansberry*, or *Stanberry*, but STANBERY. There, now, let it stand—a name now honored as well in South Carolina as in Ohio, Kentucky, and elsewhere in this broad country.

In this connection, we desire to say that, since making acquaintance with Mr. Stanbery, we have referred to his part in the great impeachment case of President Andrew Johnson. Mr. Stanbery had been the Attorney-General in President Johnson's Cabinet. It was meet that he should have been called upon to unite in the persecuted President's defence. He did so. He took active part in the preliminary proceedings, in the examination of witnesses, and finally made a fine, logical, earnest, convincing argument in the President's defence. That argument was given under circumstances of bodily ill-health calculated to diminish its force, but we perceive in its close texture no traces of the advocate's physical debility. It was sinewy and eloquent, and in it was the best and highest compliment that the President received—the tribute of one who, himself eminently truthful, discriminating and sincere, had been closely associated with the assailed Chief Magistrate; and, therefore, knew whereof he spoke, when he did speak of Johnson's courage, truth and fidelity to his great trust. We desire our community to know and appreciate the eminent counsel who have come to discharge a great duty in South Carolina.

The beginning as well as the close of Mr. Stanbery's argument in the impeachment case strikes our mind as singularly beautiful and appropriate. He was in feeble health—a strong spirit for the time in a frail tenement. We are told that Mr. Stanbery "prefaced his remarks by saying, that although in feeble health, an irresistible impulse urged him on, unseen but friendly hands sustained him, and voices inaudible to others he heard, whispering, or seeming to say: 'Feeble champion of the right, hold not back! Remember the race is not always to the swift, nor the battle to the strong! Remember a single pebble from the brook was enough to overthrow the giant that defied the armies of Israel!'" Nor was the peroration to his fine address and noble appeal less striking. He said: "Fear not to acquit him. The Constitution of the country is safe in his hands, as it was in the hands of Washington. But if, Senators, you do condemn him, if you strip him of the robes of office, if you degrade him to the utmost stretch of your power, mark the prophecy! The strong arm of the people will be about him. They will find a way to raise him from any depth to which you may consign him, and we shall live to see him redeemed, and to hear the majestic voice of the people say: Well done, faithful servant! you shall have your reward! But if, Senators, as I cannot believe, but as has been boldly said, with almost official sanction, your votes have been canvassed, and the doom of the President is sealed, then let that judgment not be pronounced in this Senate chamber; not here where our Camillus, in the hour of greatest peril, single-handed, met and baffled the enemies of the Republic; not here where he stood faithful among the faithless; not here where he fought the good fight of the Union and the Constitution; not in this chamber, whose walls echo with that clarion voice that, in the days of our greatest danger, carried hope and comfort to many a desponding heart, strong as an army with banners. No, not here. Seek out, rather, the darkest and gloomiest chamber in the subterranean recesses of this Capitol, where the cheerful light of day never enters. THERE erect the altar and immolate the victim." Now, as a Southern man, and one who, though young at the time, was in full sympathy with the Southern effort for independence, at the bidding of our sovereign State, we cannot be expected to endorse any judgment adverse to the Southern Senators and Representatives who marched in the light of secession with heads erect and souls white as snow. Yet we will say that, from Mr. Stanbery's stand-point, his views as expressed were natural and, to his mind, just. And thus it is that we can, with this explanation, say that Mr. Stanbery's peroration in the case under view was grand, and that the beginning, the middle and the end place him as high as any in that brilliant array of great lawyers who stood for and against President Johnson in his trial.

Such is the man we have in our midst, and not second to him is that old man, great and eloquent and sound, like seasoned timber, the Hon. Reverdy Johnson. These are the words of a journal that seeks not to exaggerate—that despises to play a part—that would scorn, as now controlled and informed, to "flatter Neptune for his trident or Jove for his power to thunder." We have paid but the tribute due to INTELLECT AND VIRTUE AND HONORED SERVICES.

Jonathan Wild Akerman has been put out of the Cabinet, because it is said he knew not enough of law. Alas, for the Attorney-General! He has gone "where the woodbine twines, and the whang-doodle"—whatever that may be—"mourneth for its first born."

Voices that Bring up the Memory of the Past and the Duty of the Present.

With great gratification, we have received a letter from an aged South Carolinian, formerly one of that class that lived in the lower part of the State, and illustrated all the qualities of genuine manhood—men who lived lives of honor and truth, and, whatever their human feelings were, did bear "without abuse the grand old name of GENTLEMAN." This esteemed "friend, guide and philosopher," writes to hold up our hands, and sends us words of cheer and encouragement. He bids us go on in the path we are treading, and to lift high the banner we have raised. "The regime to which we belong is of the present, but it bows to the virtue and hearkens to the voice of the old regime."

Another respected friend from the up-country writes us in a similar spirit, and hopes that we may, in our line of duty, be able to effect something towards saving the State from bankruptcy and ruin. Says this distinguished Carolinian, full of years and not wanting in honors: "I would advise you in your editorials never to lose an opportunity to hold before the people the standard of the true gentleman—the *sans peur* and *sans reproche* of the old school." These voices come to us from the low-country and up-country, and they also come from the Pee Dee and from the middle country—from woman as well as man.

As much as in us lies, we shall respond to these suggestions, nor shall power, or pelf, or detraction turn us from our steadfast purpose. We shall stand firmly, discreetly, persistently by the abiding interest and the lawful rights of all the people. This is our journalism. This is our citizenship. This is the path along which the light of victory guides us. The vindication of all that is valuable and high in our past, the elimination of all that is vicious and hurtful in our present, the aspiration to all that is worthy and possible in the future—these are the elements of our policy, and as in 1868, so now we raise the conjoined banners of POLITICAL INTEGRITY AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT; and, in this sign, under Heaven, we expect to conquer.

At the battle of Cape Trafalgar, October 21, 1805, Admiral Nelson, while bearing down on the enemy, hoisted the signal: "England expects every man to do his duty!" The order ran like wild-fire along the lines, and, in a few hours, along the hero was mortally wounded, he closed his dying eyes on the old meteor flag floating triumphant, and the combined naval power of Spain and France shattered forever. At this period in South Carolina, it may be said that "South Carolina expects every honest man to do his duty!" That duty is to break up the ring of plunderers and swindlers who have ruined our finances and plundered our people and wounded our prosperity. To accomplish this, an aroused and indignant public opinion must be formed in every County of the State, bent upon the reform of abuses by legal methods. Good men must combine—must associate—must resolve that neither in the County nor at the capital shall corruption and plundering sap the foundations of the public weal. Public apathy—which is the plunderer's opportunity—must give place to public activity. The people must act and save the State. Political activity—judicial prosecutions—industrial progress—confusion to thieves of officials—these are the duties of the hour.

Alexander the Great died many years before the Christian era. Alexander the Little died yesterday. The first Alexander was instructed by Aristotle, the other received his learning from the City Attorney. The first died, it is said, of the malaria engendered by the marshes of Assyria; the other grew sick of the noisome influences to which he was subjected and died of the memorial. The one wept because he had no more worlds to conquer; the other regretted that there was but one City Hall for his friends to build. Alas! vain man!

Says honest Trumbull: "My Republicanism is not partisan. I care nothing for it except as a party of great principles, and if it comes to be used as a cover for frauds and inequities, the honest people of the country will overwhelm us, as they ought to." Brave, manly words these. What would Mr. Trumbull think of South Carolina Radicalism?

FROM UNION.—A correspondent, writing from Union, says:

"So far, our County is pretty quiet. Very few arrests have been made. However, some of our best citizens have been taken up, and that on very flimsy evidence. We hope we may be spared the iniquitous sufferings imposed upon York and Spartanburg."

STABLE BURNED.—On last Friday morning, about 3 o'clock, the stable of Mr. Charles W. D'Oyley, on West street, was destroyed by fire. When first discovered, the flames were already burning out from the roof, and the material being light, it was impossible to put out the fire. A lot of provender was also consumed, which added much to the difficulty of saving the building. [Greenville Enterprise.]

We regret to learn that the dwelling house of Mr. Alexander Grant, with its contents, was destroyed by fire on Tuesday afternoon last. None of the family were at home at the time. The origin of the fire is supposed to have been accidental. Mr. Grant is a very industrious and deserving man, and his neighbors have taken prompt steps to repair his losses. [Chester Reporter.]

The corner-stone of the new Masonic Temple was laid in Charleston, on Wednesday.

A Card.

MESSRS. EDITORS: I desire to state, for the information of Mayor Alexander, that the protest adopted by the public meeting, on Saturday last, was prepared by myself, at the request of the Board of Trade, without suggestion or dictation from Colonel Thomas, or any other person, except as to some immaterial alterations in two or three sentences.

The incapacity in stating the amount of new bonds authorized to be issued, was owing to my failure to obtain sight or possession of the bill, although Col. Thomas sent to the State House for it in my presence, requesting its use long enough to examine it, or take a copy. He then repeated its substance, according to his recollection on a hasty reading while in the court room, and I took it for granted that he and the Board of Trade were correct in putting the amount at \$800,000. I could have had no motive in misrepresenting the bill to the Legislature, since that body had the original before them, and a glance at its first section would detect the error. Moreover, this mistake has given the Mayor and his advocates the advantage of a contemplated quibble, as if I had designed to do injustice to the Council; whilst, in fact, the entire amount of the city debt under the bill would be the same as stated in the protest, the only difference being between the interest at six or seven, and at eight per cent. on the old bonds.

It would be easy to expose the many falsifications of the memorial signed by the Mayor, and especially respecting the secret issue of bonds, last summer; but I have neither time nor inclination for the task, and will leave it to those having more leisure and ability.

EDWIN J. SCOTT.

Who's Afraid?

Think that Legislature is going to do anything to us? And if they can't do anything, "what are you going to do about it?"—you always impertinent PHOENIX, (saucy old bird!) you ever rebellious and stiff-necked Southerners, and meddling Northerners. We defy the whole of you together. Money, we beg you to understand, is the power of this nineteenth century; and we have taken care, you see, to get money; therefore, having money, we have the power, and shall snap our ringed fingers in all your interfering faces, and help yourselves, if you can! Think we didn't know what we were about? Think we hadn't calculated for it all long ago? What for else, do you suppose, we stole all the teachers' money? Women, you see, wouldn't be likely to swear and fight, and tear around about it, so we hadn't anything to be afraid of there; get ahead of us in calculating, if you can! Just the very thing we kept back the officers' and clerks' salaries for, and whatever belongings of such quiet, peaceably disposed folks as we thought wouldn't make too much fuss. Some of them were green enough to take us for gentlemen, and to depend upon our "word of honor," and may be doing so yet, for we know, and can tell the story of doom, if they want to; all the better for us; keeps them still, and the most we are in this present strait, is to finish up business, and make off with our cool millions; very pleasant to have and to hold in this warm climate.

All these aforesaid little savings, we were going to say, were laid up for just this emergency; after using them to first rate advantage in money making schemes for a good while, too, and to help out the big pile, which is all nicely put away, and is not to be disturbed for this or anything else. We just shut down the gates high a year ago, and made up our minds we were not going to pay anybody anything, and we haven't done it. What's the use, when we might as well put it in our own pockets? Nothing to hinder. If you are going to steal, steal all you can, little or much; that's our motto. Save the mountains, mountains make the year, and we were brought up to think to much on the plan to despise them now. So we just grabbed the whole, and what's the result? Set that Legislature like a pack of blood-hounds on our track, and we'll throw them the meat. All you'll hear presently, when they get their maws well filled, will be the grumbings and growlings as to who'll get the most. They'll let us alone, never fear. We rub our hands in full and ineffable satisfaction at the smiling prospect of all they will ever do. We've got money enough to buy them all up with; then what have we got to be afraid of, we want to know? Do it all in broad day-light. Come round our office and see for yourselves. See the honest members looking in, hobnob, on very special business. If you think the South Carolina drums are ever going to beat an accompaniment to the New York Rogues' March to the Tombs, you are mighty mistaken, that's all.

ASTREA.

A SHOT FROM THE NORTH.—A correspondent, writing from the North, says: "I notice the Attorney-General's Chamberlain's card in the PHOENIX; also your comments thereon. Please ask that amiable gentleman whether or not, since last February, he made his draft on the Financial Agent of South Carolina in New York for \$25,000, in favor of one O. P. or P. C. Leslie, a member of the Senate of your State, and if such draft was paid to Leslie by the Financial Agent, and how Mr. Leslie became indebted to the Attorney-General, and to what account was the money charged on the books of H. H. Kimpton. This is only one of the questions out of many which an examination of those books will score up."

We now put the question to the Attorney-General, as suggested from his native land, what say you? Pursue the ring, of which D. H. Chamberlain, the Attorney-General, furnished the key that opened the Treasury—to say nothing of other legal help.

THE MILITARY ARRESTS.—Since our last report, A. B. Warren and W. R. Lowrey, who had been arrested in North Carolina, have been released; and Elijah Harden and Felix H. Dwyer have been arrested. Including "Major" Tom Carter's band, in onstad of the military authorities for "riotous conduct and kidnapping white persons," there are now in the jail thirty-eight, of whom twenty-seven are white men.

[Yorkville Enquirer.]

An Iowa girl has contracted to cut and plant 320 acres of land this winter.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1871.

SENATE.

The Senate was called to order at 12 M., President Ransier in the Chair.

Mr. Owens introduced a bill to alter and amend an Act to revise, simplify and abridge the rules of practice, pleadings and forms of the courts in this State.

Mr. Whittemore—To amend an Act for the better protection of migratory fish.

Mr. Swails—To incorporate Charleston Hook and Ladder Company.

The Speaker attended in the Senate, when the following bills and joint resolutions were ratified: An Act to charter the Hutton Chemical and Soap Company of South Carolina; to incorporate the Mountaineer Fire Engine Company of Walhalla; to repeal a joint resolution authorizing the Governor to employ an armed force for the preservation of the public peace, approved February 8, 1869; to incorporate the town of Midway, to amend the charter of the town of Union; to incorporate the Young Men's Africanus Debating Society; to validate the action of the County Commissioners of Oconee in exchanging and conveying the lot ceded to them by the County Commissioners to build a jail thereon for the use of Oconee County; an Act to provide for the payment of the members of the General Assembly, and the attaches of both houses; an Act to alter and amend the charter of the town of Georgetown; an Act to amend Section 279 of the Code of Procedure of the State of South Carolina; an Act to renew the charter of Strawberry Ferry, over Cooper River; an Act to more effectually provide for the recording of all conveyances of real estate; joint resolution to require the Governor to communicate with the proper authorities of the State of Georgia, with a view to re-adjustment of the boundary line between the States of Georgia and South Carolina, and authorizing the appointment of three commissioners; resolution requesting the Excellency the Governor to inform the Senate, as early as a day as possible, to whom he has sold the building material in the State House yard, and in what quantity, and at what price; and, also, the real estate on Arsenal Hill and Main street, in the city of Columbia, at what price, in what quantity, and when; also, what disposition has been made of the proceeds of said sales.

Mr. Armin introduced a concurrent resolution, that a joint committee, consisting of two members of the Senate and two members of the House, be appointed to investigate the proceedings of the Sinking Fund Commission since the time of their appointment; to ascertain what disposition has been made of the land scrip to which the State was entitled, under the Act of Congress, entitled "An Act donating public lands to the several States and Territories which may provide for the education of the children and the mechanics arts;" and that the said committee shall have power to send for persons and papers, and shall report to the General Assembly on or before the 25th day of January next.

After considerable debate, the resolution was laid over.

Mr. Armin offered the following resolution, which was adopted, and Messrs. Armin, McIntyre and Smalls appointed on the committee:

Resolved, That a committee consisting of three be appointed, on the part of the Senate, to investigate the Sinking Fund Commission, since the time of their appointment, with power to send for persons and papers, and to report on or before the 25th of January, 1872.

At 1.30 o'clock P. M., Senate adjourned until to-morrow, at 12 M.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 12 M., Speaker Moses in the Chair.

The House adopted the resolution authorizing the State House Keeper to purchase fifty tons of coal for the use of the General Assembly, and it was ordered to the Senate.

Mr. Bowen's resolution, relative to the impeachment of Governor Scott, occupied the attention of the House up to 3 o'clock, when the House adjourned until to-morrow, at 12 M.

GOOD ADVICE TO YOUNG LAWYERS.—The following excellent and well-timed advice has been sent to a young lawyer in this city, by Col. P. B. Fouke, of New Orleans:

"You are young, very young, for the responsibilities that rest upon you. Be firm and resolute in the discharge of all your duties in life. Make circumstances and take advantage of them as they arise. Do not be hasty. Be prudent, cautious and patient. You have thirty years of active and many years of leisure. Be kind, polite and generous to all. Kindness cultivates all the noble attributes of the human heart, and begets an exquisite and attractive politeness which costs nothing, and is so interwoven with generosity that you can scarce tell which most to admire or to accord it. Be cool and be courteous. Make circumstances and cultivate and pluck them with the same delicacy that you would the delicate flower, with a firm, determined hand, but with readiness and without ostentation. Every young man has within his reach the necessary capital to commence business in life, namely: civility, strict integrity and fidelity to business. It will bring him ease, comfort and tranquility when the evening shadows overtake him."

[Missouri Republican.]

SMALL-POX BY MAIL.—A young lady ill with small-pox in this city recently received a letter from a sister in Pittsburgh, who wrote that she was then sick with small-pox. Exactly eleven days after the letter was received, the young lady who received it was taken with the disease. She was not exposed to it in any other way, and there seems to be no doubt the contagion was communicated by the letter.—[Wheeling Intelligencer.]

Josh Billings, in his directions "How to pick out a good horse," says: "Good horses are skarse, and good men that deal in enny kinde of horses are skarser. 'An honest man is the noblest work of God'; this famous saying was written, in great anguish of heart, by the late Alexander Pope, just after buying a good family horse."

An intoxicated colored man, named Ben. Belcher, fell from his horse, while on his way home from Abbeville Court House, on the 12th, and died from exposure.

The darkeys have been raiding around York, and making arrests of white citizens without legal authority. Uncle Sam's boys are after them.

When we talk of our neighbors, it gives them a chance to discuss our imperfection. A wise tongue keeps its own council.

Local Items.

CITY MATTERS.—The price of single copies of the PHOENIX is five cents.

The PHOENIX office is supplied with all necessary material for as handsome cards, bill heads, posters, pamphlets, hand-bills, circulars, and other printing that may be desired, as any office in the South. Give us a call and test our work.

A complete outfit, with the exception of a press, for a country paper is offered for sale at a very low rate. Particulars can be obtained at PHOENIX office.

The chicken disputes have been going on for the past two days at the Exchange pit, and will be continued to-day. Greenbacks in unlimited quantities changed hands, and the wind of several birds was out short.

Yesterday was the coldest day of the season, as shown by the Pollock House thermometer: 9 A. M., 25; 2 P. M., 32; 10 P. M., 30.

We are indebted to the insurance firm of H. E. Nichols & Co. for several copies of calendars for 1872.

A derelict, used for hoisting granite, fell yesterday in the State House yard, but no one was injured.

Capt. Henry Beard, who wields the baton at the "Exchange," furnished us, yesterday, with a bottle of capitol prepared artichoke pickles—a most excellent condiment.

"The Pilgrim" drew a very good audience last night, and elicited the admiration of all the visitors. This afternoon, at 8 o'clock, there will be a grand matinee, which will be the occasion for children. The panorama will move again at 8 o'clock to-night, which will be the last exhibition in our city; and those who desire to witness a Faithful illustration of Christian's pilgrimage should attend.

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.—The Northern mail opens at 3.00 P. M.; closes 7.15 A. M. Charleston day mail opens 4.00 P. M.; closes 6.00 A. M. Charleston night mail opens 6.30 A. M.; closes 6.00 P. M. Greenville mail opens 6.45 P. M.; closes 6.00 A. M. Western mail opens 9.00 A. M.; closes 1.30 P. M. On Sunday office open from 3 to 4 P. M.

PHOENIXIANA.—Let every minister, while he is preaching, remember that God makes one of his hearers.

A cynical lady, rather inclined to flirt, says most men are like a cold—very easily caught, but very difficult to get rid of.

It is the style nowadays when an engagement is broken off, for the lady not to return the presents given her by her fiancée, or even the engagement ring, which is kept as an Indian keeps a scalp—as a trophy of former victories.

The Rev. Mr. Smith, of Cincinnati, recently prayed that all peculators and wrong-doers may be sent to the penitentiary. It is evidently the desire of the Rev. Mr. Smith that the Almighty shall reduce the Radical party below a quorum.

It cost the people of the United States \$40,000,000 to support the army during the past year. This seems high; but when we reflect that the army has killed nine Indian women and children, and arrested 1,200 people under the Ku Klux law, we can't conscientiously say that it is too high.

Illness is the bane, the moth, the gangrene, the curse of life.

Those who dislike the smell of tobacco smoke, will be glad of the opportunity to advise their friends that smoking produces locomotorataxieeteerawhaxie of the wind-pipe.

Judging by the size of fashionable shoes, it is safe to say that many of our women stand on trifles.

Never confide a secret to your relation; "blood will tell."

"A cold snap"—A frost bite.

A capital business—Lending money. Those who show the most pity give usually the least help.

Happy pairs now announce their engagement by leaving their cards together at the houses of their friends.

A lady, in accounting to a friend for her temporary disappearance from society, said she had been celebrating her wooden wedding, having just married a blockhead.

However ugly your wife may be, she has at least this beauty: If she abuses you herself she will let no one else do it. Small men suddenly become great when a great man stumbles.

SUPREME COURT, THURSDAY, December 21.—The court met at 10 A. M. Present—Chief Justice Moses and Associate Justices Willard and Wright.

The Third Circuit was called. The Bank of Charleston vs. Thomas W. Briggs. Struck off.

W. W. Wade, respondent, vs. L. Cohen & Co., appellants. Mr. Spain was heard for appellants.

The State, respondent, vs. Cornelius London, appellant. Mr. Fleming for appellant.

L. D. Mowry et al., appellant et al., vs. John Stogner et al., respondents. McIver for appellants; Mr. Hudson for respondents.

At 3 P. M., the court adjourned until Wednesday, January 3, 1872, when the Eighth Circuit will be called.